

Testimony on fair housing for the psychiatrically disabled

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The psychiatrically disabled should be given a chance and shouldn't be evicted from their apartments. The very nature of our predicament is to lay ourselves on the line with trust and love so that we will offer the whole world or wherever we live, new insight so that we may recover and move on with our lives.

To evict us, and kick us out of our homes is a self defeating crime in and of itself. If people don't let us live our dreams and find ourselves they will not be living their dreams as well. You are needed for our recovery but so are we.

I am not speaking in a vacuum here because I have lived at Shepherd Park for over 20 years, and they have not kicked me out. They have helped me in the roughest of times. And they did not get scared away because I needed help or had concerns. To this day they are honoring me as a person and making sure I am fulfilled as a person and don't give up on any of my dreams.

They even let me have a housekeeper that is paid for by the state to come in once a week and take me food shopping so that my apartment is not only a place to live but a lovely home.

If our landlords help us to build homes of our dreams that we don't want to leave they will probably, if their hearts are in the right place, won't want us to leave either.

However, if accommodations are not made for us then we are going to have to think about getting architects and planners to build and create apartments for us, that's all there is to it.

Please, legislatures don't give up on us, housing for us can be discovered. When landlords start discovering how wonderful we are, we will start rejoicing over how wonderful our permanent living situations are.